



Transcription (normalised)

This morning I got no breakfast at noon, I got but a very poor dinner though. I was hungry, for there was neither dumplings nor soft bread, and I cannot yet reconcile myself to eating ship biscuit full of maggots and weevils. In the afternoon I got no tea, and being at want of something in the evening, I got the cook to boil me some chocolate. Luckily, he guarded the fire long enough from the sea to do it.

William Gooch's journal (extract)

Date made
1792

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Description

Food on voyages of exploration was not always good. William describes how hungry he could get in his extract.

Questions

1. Why was William hungry?
2. What are weevils?
3. Would you eat maggots and weevils if there was no other food?